

Work Group Leaders Meeting on Priority Concepts

The Work Group Leaders met at 9:30 a.m. at the Oscar T. Yates Water Treatment Plant and Public Works Complex on Altruria in Bartlett on May 14, 2008 to fill in some of the missing information needed to move forward with the development and refinement of the priority concepts set by the Task Force.

Those present included: Bill Yearwood, Randy Etheridge and Andy Ashford. Call in line for other leader opened but no calls were received by WG-2 representatives.

Larry Christley was present and facilitated the meeting.

The objectives that were set to accomplish by meetings end were:

- ✓ Identify commodity groups for tracking
- ✓ How to handle the “sludge loophole” and commodities like wood wastes
- ✓ Sectors by group (Public and Private)
- ✓ Sanctions if entities fail to meet goal
- ✓ Empowering legislation
- ✓ Priority 3 and 4 from WG-1 is clear enough to move forward, how do you define this out as waste collect and disposed by municipality and county?

The discussion on these topics as agreed by the work group leaders are as follows and will be presented to the Task Force at the May 29th meeting.

Commodity Groups for Measurements and Benchmarks

Metrics for Goal

Yard trimmings- Ultimate goal is to move these towards compost, mulch, Material Derived Fuels

Paper products- Split out into components but look for aggregate for benchmarking

Metals- Made up of the following: white goods, aluminum cans, steel cans, and metals (define)

Plastics- Post consumer plastics 1 through 6

Glass- Aggregated all colors

Measured and Recorded for Benchmark Progress but not included in the calculation of the goal.

Other- Everything else

Class III/IV Commodity Groups for Measurements and Benchmarks

The leaders were unsure as to how to break these commodities out at this point. More study into types of commodities for C&D recycling needed.

Sectors to be measured-

Public-

Municipal

County Governments

Private-

Commercial

Industrial

Institutional- K-12, Higher Ed, Correctional Facilities, Parks

Land applied sludge should be considered beneficial use but is not counted as one of the noted metric benchmarks noted above. Landfilled sludge will count against them. This will only count beneficially in

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that it lowers the landfill disposal. Alternate Daily Coverage (ADC) is not disposal but protects natural resources.

Empowering Legislation:

- ✓ Empower local governments to be allowed to pass ordinances for Construction and Demolition (C&D) deposit systems and/or waste reduction plans for new building permits to encourage recycling of C&D material.
- ✓ Empower local governments by passing legislation to charge a local surcharge on disposal for entities not meeting or contributing a “good faith effort” to the goals. Money stays local.
- ✓ Empower regional solid waste planning boards with the authority to review entities not meeting goals and direct remediation. (Funding mechanism needed – possibly previous noted local surcharge?)
- ✓ Require legislation by local governments to redirect yard trimmings away from Class I landfills by 5 years after implementation.

Sanctions if entities fail to meet the goal.

Statement: The intent of sanctions are to reward those entities that work towards the goal and change the behavior of those that do not participate in a good faith effort towards attaining the goals.

Negative Sanctions:

**Empower local governments to allow an additional landfill surcharge on local entities not participating with a good faith effort. (Possibly to fund planning board oversight?)

**First empowering legislation for local governments then look at the “State” picture to make things happen.

**Traditional sanctions such as: Loss of Grants, Penalties, Injunctive Relief, etc.

Positive Sanctions:

**Adding bonus points to region’s local governments’ grant applications on competitive grants even for rebate counties (schools and other agencies that do not receive rebate money).

**Higher achiever credits from previous years can pull forward and allow more grace if a down year arises for that local government.

**Small rebate amounts for local governments that make their goal.

**Positive Press – Statewide and local press releases praising efforts of local governments

**Placard of Success for the Mayor awarded a Solid Waste Conference or some other event.

Work Group – 1 Priority 3 and 4 the Methodology [\[link to Work Group 1 Priority Concepts\]](#)

Recyclables (as defined in benchmarked commodities above) over Generation is the method to determine the measurement for the waste reduction target for those being measured or in formula:

$$\frac{\text{Total Quantity of Benchmark* Commodities Recycled by Entity}}{\text{Generation as Controlled by Entity}} \times 100 = \% \text{ Reduction}$$

*5 commodity groups noted above

Set goal for five year first implementation at 20% initial target and with an increase (improvement) annually thereafter with no set amount (continuous improvement). It was thought that this would be a good place to start. Many municipalities would already be close and those that are would have an achievable target to hit within the five years after implementation. Thereafter it would be expected that a continued effort to improve would be made. After a period of time review and adjust.

About Landfill Bans

Yard trimming ban/redirected needs to be looked at again maybe used empowering legislation noted above to achieve this. Require the posting of a sign at Class I landfills saying “NO YARD TRIMMINGS”.